

# Restoration begins on Waldwick Train Station

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011 LAST UPDATED: THURSDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2011, 2:03 AM

BY JODI WEINBERGER  
OF SUBURBAN NEWS  
WALDWICK SUBURBAN NEWS

**Waldwick** – The Waldwick Community Alliance is finally able to say construction has begun on the restoration of the borough's historic train station.

A groundbreaking ceremony to mark the occasion will be held from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Nov. 15 at the station on Hewson Avenue.

"It's very gratifying," Alliance vice president Doug Cowie said in an interview Nov. 2.

The Alliance has been on a roller-coaster ride for years with the project, hitting road blocks in the form of NJ Transit, the state and county along the way.

The Alliance wants to turn the building into a history museum, but because it is a historic landmark — it was ranked as one of the 10 most-endangered historic places by Preservation New Jersey in May — the group was forced to spend thousands on a series of studies and reports to satisfy state and county requirements.

The group leased the station, and 8,546 square feet surrounding it, from NJ Transit in 2009, but fund-raising for its restoration began in 2005.

The Alliance also is waiting for the [Bergen County](#) Board of Chosen Freeholders to vote on a \$293,862 historic preservation grant for the project. The recent snowstorm forced the vote to be postponed until Nov. 22.

"Luckily we have enough money in the till to keep the project going," Cowie said. "But it would be so much more comfortable if we knew that everything was approved."

The Alliance recently awarded a contract for the work, which is estimated at a cost of more than \$500,000, to Precision Building & Construction of Bridgewater. Cowie said work



PHOTO COURTESY OF DOUG COWIE

Construction under way on the restoration of the Waldwick Train Station.

replicating the original chimney should be complete in about two weeks and the new sill plate should be in place shortly after.

Alliance members have also volunteered to help with construction, and are removing the stucco from the building themselves, which Cowie said will save \$24,000.

"Having snow in October certainly wasn't expected," Cowie said. "We're hoping to have enough good weather to get this done."

The first phase of the project will also include removal of asphalt, re-grading of the site to provide better storm-water drainage, repairing the foundation, installing a new roof and improving windows, doors and siding.

weinberger@northjersey.com

▶ **More from NorthJersey.com - Community:**

**Find this article at:**

[http://www.northjersey.com/community/133591838\\_Groundbreaking\\_developments\\_\\_Restoration\\_set\\_in\\_motion\\_.html](http://www.northjersey.com/community/133591838_Groundbreaking_developments__Restoration_set_in_motion_.html)

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

Copyright © North Jersey Media Group